



AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

POLLUTION PREVENTION SELF-AUDIT CHECKLIST

Pollution Prevention Assistance for San Diego County



- ❑ **Keep work areas clean.** Clean up spills as soon as they happen to avoid tracking them around the shop. Use the three mop-bucket system:
 - First, use a hydrophobic (oil-absorbing) mop & bucket for oils (mark bucket "Oil Only") and recycle with shop's used oil.
 - Next, use a separate regular mop & bucket for antifreeze (mark bucket "Coolant") and recycle with shop's used antifreeze.
 - Finally, wipe the area with rags and only do a regular mop with a light detergent if needed.

*TIP: Use differently colored mop-buckets as well as labeling; also consider sealing floor with an impermeable coating such as epoxy.

- ❑ **Use aqueous (water-based) parts and brake cleaners.** Aqueous cleaners are non-flammable, safer to use, reduce air pollution and can last longer than solvent-based products. Spray cabinets and ultrasonic aqueous units can also save on labor.
- ❑ **Eliminate or reduce the use of aerosols, chlorinated products and flammable products.** Consider using refillable aerosols with aqueous products. Use of auto products containing perchloroethylene, trichloroethylene, or methylene chloride will be banned after December 31, 2002 (www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/amr.htm) and n-Hexane, found in other flammable auto products, causes permanent nerve damage.
- ❑ Recycle used oil and antifreeze. Stock re-refined oil at your shop and encourage customers to use this in their vehicles (check vehicle warranty; many warranties allow this). Mercedes Benz uses re-refined oil in all their new cars. Visit www.astm.org for recycled antifreeze standards, D6471, 72.
- ❑ Clean and maintain oil/water separators or close off inside floor drains to prevent spills from entering the sewer system.
- ❑ Post a sign above the mop sink with the words "No Hazardous Waste Discharge to Sewer".
- ❑ Keep engine parts inside or under cover. Drain parts before storing and use drip pans to prevent any liquids from spilling or running outdoors to the storm drain.
- ❑ Stencil storm drains at your facility with the words "No Dumping...Flows to Creeks, Bay and Ocean".
- ❑ Reduce stormwater pollution and save water by cleaning outside paved areas using dry sweeping and vacuuming. If power washing is done, use closed loop water recycling equipment and check with sewer agency for proper disposal. No discharge is permitted to the street and storm drains.
- ❑ Have an energy and water audit done by your utility company. You will save money while you implement conservation measures.
- ❑ Recycle general shop and office waste such as aluminum, paper, plastic and cardboard, and purchase recycled content products.
- ❑ Attend automotive organization meetings to share ideas on increasing efficiency, reducing waste and improving business.
- ❑ Encourage regular use of this checklist by employees at work and encourage them to recycle, reduce waste and promote pollution prevention ideas at home to further protect the health of our community.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

ON THE WEB:

Aqueous product vendors:
<http://www.aqmd.gov/busines/water.html>

n-Hexane Health Advisory
Fact Sheet:
www.dhs.ca.gov/ohb/hesis
(go to Publications-scroll
down to Medical Guidelines)

Clean Car Campaign
www.cleancarcampaign.org

Auto Repair Links:
<http://www.p2rx.org/> (go to
Auto Repair-Operations -
Extensive Links)

Clean Cities Program
www.ccities.doe.gov

Automotive Service Council
www.asc24.com

OR CALL:

San Diego County Haz Mat:
toll free (800) 253-9933 or
(619) 338-2222

